

Message Text

SECRET

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 SS-15 PM-05 DODE-00

INR-10 INRE-00 CIAE-00 NSCE-00 NSAE-00 EUR-12

/053 W

-----019947 181744Z /75 R

O R 181635Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9368

INFO 21AF OC MCGUIRE AFB NJ

HQ USAF WASHDC

OASD/ISA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAHINGEN GE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

S E C R E T MONROVIA 3648

KINSHASA FOR ZAMISH DET

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PINT, MOPS, CG, LI

SUBJECT: USE OF ROBERTSFIELD BY USAF AIRCRAFT

REFS: (A) STATE 126063 (B) 21AF OC MCGUIRE AFB NJ 180547Z MAY 78
(C) MONROVIA 3551

1. REFTEL A REQUESTED OUR URGENT ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING DIPLOMATIC CLEARANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF LIBERIA FOR USAF AIRCRAFT TO LAND AND OPERATE AT ROBERTSFIELD IN CONNECTION WITH THE DELIVERY OF JET FUEL TO KAMINA AIRFIELD. REFTEL B REQUESTED OVERFLIGHT/ LANDING CLEARANCE FOR MAC SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT MISSION AAM 7500-99 AND MENTIONED THE POSITIONING OF STAGE CREWS AND MAINTENANCE KITS AT ROBERTSFIELD.

2. IN VIEW OF PRESIDENT TOLBERT'S DEEP CONCERN OVER THE SHABA SITUATION AND THE APPEAL HE MADE TO ME FOR
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A MORE POSITIVE U.S. POLICY VIS-A-VIS SOVIET/CUBAN INROADS IN AFRICA (REFTEL C), I THOUGHT IT BEST TO RAISE THE MATTER OF THE REQUESTED CLEARANCES PERSONALLY WITH HIS CLOSEST ADVISER, MINISTER OF STATE FOR PRESIDENTIAL AFFAIRS, E. REGINALD TOWNSEND, RATHER THAN GO THROUGH OUR NORMAL CLEARANCE CHANNELS. TOWNSEND IMMEDIATELY RELAYED THE REQUEST TO THE PRESIDENT (IN BENTOL) AND

INFORMED ME OF THE LATTER'S AFFIRMATIVE REPLY SHORTLY
BEFORE NOON. WE SHALL NOW NEED TO BE KEPT CONTINUOUSLY
INFORMED OF THE TIMES OF ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURES OF ALL
AIRCRAFT WITH SUFFICIENT LEAD TIME SO THAT RESPONSIBLE
GOL OFFICIALS, INCLUDING THOSE AT ROBERTSFIELD, CAN
MAKE REQUIRED PREPARATIONS. I SHALL ALSO NEED TO BE
KEPT FULLY INFORMED OF THE MISSIONS OF THESE AIRCRAFT
AND OF DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO OUR SUPPORT FOR ZAIRE
IN THIS PRESENT CRISIS IN ORDER THAT THE PRESIDENT AND
FOREIGN MINISTER CAN BE BRIEFED.
CARTER

SECRET

NNN

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